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Friday Morning, Feb. 11, 1848.

☞ The pressure on our columns necessarily excludes some of great interest prepared for this day's paper.

☞ We are indebted to the Hon. B. G. Tompkins, for important public documents.

OUR WASHINGTON CORRESPONDENT.—We invite particular attention to the letter of our correspondent at Washington. It communicates much intelligence of interest.

RUMORED DEATH OF SENATOR JOHN DAVIS.—The New York and Philadelphia papers announce on the faith of a Telegraphic despatch, dated Washington, February 1st, that the Hon. JOHN DAVIS, of Massachusetts, was dead. The rumor is doubtless false, as Baltimore papers of the 2nd and 3rd, make no mention of it.

Congressional.

Yesterday's mail brought us accounts of the proceedings of both Houses on the 1st and 2nd. They are interesting and important.

In the SENATE, on the 1st, Mr Benton, from the Committee on Military Affairs, reported a resolution authorizing the examination of testimony asked for in the memorial of Colonel Fremont, and the appointment of a clerk, which was agreed to.

Mr. Breese, from the committee on Public Lands, reported a bill for the relief of an act relative to pre-emption rights.

Mr Breese submitted a resolution calling for information as to the amount of military lands sold in Illinois for bounties, the price at which they were sold, &c.

Mr. Rusby's resolutions on the subject of the war, after extensive debate, were finally passed over, the yeas and nays being taken on the motion to lay them on the table, and were carried by a majority of 28 votes, the Senate should proceed to consider the resolutions.

A bill to allow further time for surveying claims for bounty lands for military services in the late war with Great Britain and for other purposes, was taken up and so amended as to exclude the claimants under Virginia Military land warrants, and was then passed.

The resolution submitted by Mr Miller, calling on the President to state, if he had ordered duties to be collected on the goods and merchandise of American citizens in Mexico, and, if so, under what law, &c., was taken up and agreed to.

A bill to provide additional Examining Clerks in the Patent office, and to authorise additional appointments, was taken up. On motion of Mr. Lewis, the bill passed by the House was substituted for the Senate bill, and, as thus amended, the bill was passed.

The Vice President elect was proper and respectful for him to announce to the Senate his intention to be absent for some time. He needed the Senate of this fact, in order that, at the meeting of the body to-morrow morning, a President pro tem. might be elected for the President pro tem.

The Senate then resumed the consideration of the Ten Regiment Bill.

Mr. Dix gave his views in the end addressed himself to the question of the war, and spoke in opposition to the bill. Mr. Dix's speech occupied the entire time of the Senate, and was listened to with the closest attention.

In the HOUSE, on the 1st, after a speech from Mr. Cogswell, and one from Mr Moore, the President's message was referred to the various committees, which, which proposes to refer so much of the message as relates to the condition of the war, the means of obtaining money to prosecute the war, the propriety of imposing a duty on tea and coffee, the warehousing system, the constitutional treasury, &c., to the committee of ways and means. Mr Wilmot moved to amend by instructing the committee to consider and report by bill or otherwise, on the expediency of imposing an annual tax of five millions, during the continuance of the war, and the payment of the public debt, on stocks, personal property and money at interest, to be apportioned among the several States, provided by the Constitution.

The amendment was lost, yeas 90, nays 89, and the main resolution, thus amended, was adopted.

The Committee on the Whole then rose, and reported to the House. The question being on agreeing to the report of the committee, Mr. Cramer addressed the House, in opposition to the war. Mr Cobb and others followed the war, and the House adjourned.

In the SENATE, on the 2nd, the Hon. David R. Atchison was sworn in, as a Senator from Missouri.

A bill was passed authorizing the payment of $2000 to James Crutcher, to enable him to go to the Capital, on his pension claim.

Mr Niles presented a memorial from Thos. Jefferson Jones, praying for his relief, he having contracted in Mexico, which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

Mr Johnson of Louisiana presented several resolutions of the Legislature of Louisiana on the subject of claims of citizens of Louisiana, in favor of the Louisiana compensation for French Spoliations, and asking a grant of school lands.

Mr Benton submitted a resolution calling the President to inform the Senate why certain words were introduced in the report in the Army Register relating to Cadets.

Mr Jefferson Davis, from the Military Committee, reported a bill to extend the provisions of existing pension laws to enlisted men in the Ordnance Corps of the U. S. Army, which was read three times and passed.

Mr Ashley, from the Committee on the Judiciary, reported a bill providing for the purchase and distribution of the Decisions of the Supreme Court among the several States and Territories.

Mr. Westcott, from the Committee on Claims, reported a resolution referring the case of A. H. Frazer and Albert Baker, relative to an alleged outrage on a vessel, which was their property, to the Secretary of State.

The Senate then resumed the consideration of the Army Bill, and Mr. Bell then addressed the Senate in opposition to the bill.

He made a very forcible speech against the bill, occupying the unremitted attention of the whole Senate for more than two hours—in which he was very severe on the policy of the Administration, and defended the course of those Senators who felt themselves bound to oppose the war.

Mr. Bell sought the aid of any treaty being expected from the present government of Mexico, because it would not give that security for the future which was now alleged to be one of the main objects of the continuance of the war.

Mr Bell gave way without concluding, for a motion to adjourn.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Immediately after the reading of the journal, Mr Rhett obtained leave to make a personal explanation, in regard to certain alleged doubtful unintentional misrepresentations of his remarks the other day on the President's Annual Message, as published in the report of Mr. Goggin's speech of yesterday, in a Washington paper of this morning, on the same subject. He proceeded to point out and reply to the several misstatements in Mr. Goggin's speech, when he was called to order by Mr. King, of Georgia, on the ground that he was making, not a personal explanation, but an elaborate argument in reply to the speech of Mr. Goggin.

The Speaker decided Mr. Rhett to be in order, as there was no rule to prevent him from proceeding, after the House had, by unanimous consent, given him permission.

Mr. Rhett—If I am out of order I will sit down.

The Speaker—The gentleman from South Carolina will proceed. The Chair has not called him to order.

Mr. Rhett proceeded, when he was again called to order by Mr. Rockwell, of Connecticut, and subsequently by Mr. Burt and Mr. Smith, of Indiana.

Mr. Rhett concluded, when Ma Collamer and several other members rose to make personal explanations, but objections being made, the House proceeded to the consideration of the report made yesterday, from the Committee of the Whole on the state of the Union, on the resolutions for referring the President's message to appropriate Committees.

Mr. Cobb, of Georgia, having the floor, yielded it to Mr Vinton, who stated that he had on Saturday given notice that he would to-day call up the Loan Bill, as it was important that it should be acted upon immediately.

He had risen to express the hope that the consideration of the President's message would be concluded to-day, or early to-morrow; if not, he should, at 1 o'clock to-morrow, move the previous question.

Mr Cobb replied, that those on that side of the House had been disposed to terminate debate at 2 o'clock yesterday, and there was no disposition on that side now to protract the discussion.

But the gentleman from Vermont (Mr. Collamer) had yesterday, after the resolutions had been reported to the House, proceeded to spin a speech of some length, to which it was necessary that he should make some remarks in reply.

The debate was continued by Messrs. Cobb, Stephens and Brown—when the House adjourned.

Arrival of the Acadia.

By regular mail, we yesterday received full advices by the steamship *Acadia*, which reached Boston on the evening of the 1st inst., having left Liverpool on the 15th ult. The news is of interest.

The cotton market had again suffered a decline, the quotations being from 1-6d. to 1-8d. lower than the quotations by the *Caledonia*. Best American flour 28s. 6d. to 30s. Indian corn has declined 2s. per quarter, and corn meal 1s. per bbl. Provisions were not in demand, and the tendency of prices was downward. The money market had improved, and consols advanced from 85 3-8 to 87 3-4. The bullion in the Bank of England was over 12 millions sterling.

Abdel Kader has surrendered to the French forces in Algiers.

The Queen of Spain is seriously ill.

Switzerland was engaged in reducing her army, and the religious orders were compelled to pay immense sums.

The Pope has complained to the Diet of the conduct of the Federal army.

The allied powers still talk of intervention in Switzerland.

Italy remained tranquil.

In order that a comparison may be made of the above quotations with the price prevailing at the time of the departure of the steamers on the 18th and the 31st of December, we annex them, as follows:

	Dec. 18.	Dec. 31.
American Wheat,	7s 6d a 8s 10d.	6s 6d a 9s 6d
Indian corn,	32s 6d a 36s 6d	34s 6d a 36s 6d
Indian meal,	14s 6d a 15s 6d	15s 6d a 15s 6d
American flour,	28s 6d a 30s 6d	30s 6d a 31s 6d

The British steam-frigate Avenger has been totally lost. We deeply regret to say that the worst forebodings have been realized. The sacrifice of life has been immense; only four out of the crew of 270, viz: Lieut. F. Rooke; Mr. Larkham, gunner; William Hill, steward; and James Morley, a boy, have been rescued from a watery grave.

ADDITIONAL FAILURES IN EUROPE.

Anderson, M'Gregor & Co., merchants, Glasgow.
Anderson, J & Co., merchants, Glasgow.
Carrill, Herdlam & Co. mer., Newcastle-on-Tyne.
Church, Lake & Co. merchants, Calcutta.
Cockerell & Co. merchants, Calcutta.
Cohen, Julius, banker, Paris.
Crozet, Nephew & Co., merchants, Marseilles.
Durand & Mackenzie, merchants, London.
Fleschson, L. H., banker, Frankfort.
Gilmour & Kerr spinners, Glasgow.
Gerstenbergk, J. F. & Son, bankers, Frankfort.
Heilbutt, Reubens & Co. merchants, London.
Kantow & Boel, ship owners, Stockholm.
Kramer & Son, general merchants, Amsterdam.
Kissel & Co. Carlsruhe.
Lees, John merchant, Glasgow.
Lyal, Matthison & Co. merchants, Calcutta.
Mitchell, A & Co. spinners, Glasgow.
Mac Fordyce & Co. merchants, Calcutta.
Peckmann, M.T. manufacturer, Haarlem.
Shearman, Mullan & Co. merchants, Calcutta.
Speckle J. B. merchant, Hamburg.
Stirling, Livingston & Co. merchants, Bombay.
Taylor, W. & A. manufacturers, Glasgow.
Thorne William, merchants, London.
Wadkin, T. & Co. merchant, Glasgow.

ARRIVALS OF SPECIE.—Specie continues to arrive in this country from various parts of the world. The West Point and Menmon, which arrived from New York at Liverpool on the 6th inst., brought £11,000 of the Yorkshire, on the following day, brought £45,000; the Templeman, from Valparaiso, on the 4th inst., brought $50,000; and the Charles Brownell, from the same port, several cases, containing dollars and bars of gold and silver. In addition to these, the Liverpool had £20,000, and the Texian, from Mazatlan, $30,000. The packet Prince Albert, from New York, the Oriental Queen, from the Mauritius, and the steamship Princess Royal, from Hamburg, have each brought consignments of specie. The steamship Soho, from Antwerp, contained three casks silver specie, which is an interesting arrival at the present time.—*Liv. Times, Jan. 15.*

STATE OF IRELAND.—The condition of Ireland is appalling. The correspondent of the Baltimore *Sun* says:

At Dundalk, seventy-two ejectments have been taken out, and eighty-two additional ordered by the Marquis of Anglesea, at Wexford. Extermination by ejectment was being carried to a frightful extent.

The famine and distress in the South and West was becoming daily more severe. An appeal to the public generosity was held at Kennanstown, for children, who had died from starvation on the road side. They were denied food by Capt. Connolly and Kennedy, of the Board of Guardians.

The bitter rivalry of the old and young sections were indulging in disgraceful squabbles and recriminations at the close of the year. Mr. Ray made an appeal to members throughout the country, which brought for first week £150, and for second week £69.

John O'Connell had been invited to a dinner at Paris on the occasion of the celebration of the obsequies to his father.

A split had also taken place among the young Ireland's, which resulted in the withdrawal of Mitchell and Reilly from the editorial chair of the organ of the party.

John O'Connell originated an attempt at Limerick to reunite the young and old repealers, but Smith O'Brien would not consent short of a dissolution of the present association, and the construction of new societies, with another set of rules. Thereupon the negotiation failed.

Sir N. Fitzsimons has been appointed Inspector General of Prisons of Ireland, in the room of Major Cunningham, deceased.

The health of the Lord Chancellor of Ireland was daily improving.

FRANCE.—Intelligence has been received that Abdel-Kader has surrendered to the Duke de Aumale, at Algiers, on condition of his retiring to St. Jean d'Acre.

From the *European Times*, Jan 15:

A letter from Toulon, of January 7th, says: "The authorities have received instructions relative to Abd-el-Kader and his family. The Emir is to be transferred to-morrow to Fort Lamalgue, with his wives, three children and his brother-in-law, Mustapha Ben Tehami. The other Arabs now at the Lazaretto are to be sent to Fort Malbousquet."

The debates on the French Chamber of Deputies, on the address in answer to the speech from the throne, commenced on the 3d ult.—Among the bills presented was one for the abolition of the duty on salt, to take effect in 1850 and another for the reduction of postage.

Some sensation was excited in Paris, among the stock jobbers, by a report that the King had been taken ill on the 30th ult., at dinner, and had to be bled before he obtained relief. Three per cents. fell to 71f. and 41c., but recovered to 75f. 50c. on its being ascertained that there was not the slightest truth in the report.

SPAIN.—The health of the Queen of Spain was announced to be in a critical state. She was affected with epilepsy, which, it was expected, would prove fatal. The importance of the consequences that may result from her death cannot be foreseen.

Signor Salmanca was to be impeached for malversation on the treasury.

Espartero has landed at Sebastian, after an absence of five years. His reception was most enthusiastic, and he shed tears as he landed.—He left next morning for Madrid.

The retirement of Narvaez was again reported as likely.

PORTUGAL.—Several shocks of an earthquake had been felt at Lisbon, the frequency of which exceeded any thing since 1755. No serious damage.

SWITZERLAND.—A further reduction of the army of occupation had been ordered by the Directory. Several religious establishments had also been ordered to pay large sums to the Government. The Pope had addressed the Diet, complaining of several sacrilegious acts committed on the Federal expedition. Austria, Prussia and France had determined to demand the withdrawal of the Federal troops from the different cantons, and restore independence. Russia and England had not declared their intentions.

ITALY.—Pius the IX progresses with constitutional reform, to the great satisfaction of his subjects. A ministry on the most comprehensive plan had been formed. The ministers all have State appointments, with the exception of Cardinals and Princes. Twelve hundred muskets had arrived from France.

An agreement has been entered into between the Roman, Tuscan, and Sardinian governments, to proceed concidently with reform measures.

An immediate revolt was expected in Naples, and 1,000 students had been ordered in consequence to be banished from the capital. The order, however, was subsequently revoked.

The position of Austria, was daily gaining ground, and little doubt is entertained of obtaining finally complete independence. An army of observation was being formed by Parma and Modena, to keep Austrian despotism in check, and the greatest enthusiasm prevailed.

There has been an emute in Rome, displaying scenes like the close of the last year of the reign of Louis XVI, in Paris. The mob was headed by Ciceruollack, who brought up on the first day a long demand for rights and concessions resembling the fine points of the O'Connell charter. Nine hundred men of the civic guard were called out to meet the supposed rapacious insurrection at the gates of the Quirinal. The doors were barred, and a rain just then commencing, the crowds dispersed. In the mean time a Senator, Prince Corsini, went through the city harranguing the mob. The mob gathered around the castle of Ceteria Romani, from the balcony of which a Senator addressed the people." "Silence" bawled out a brawny fellow, and in a moment general silence prevailed. "Tell the Pope," continued the same voice, "that the people are for him, with him alone; that if he goes to the scoundrels around him, if he does not send them off to-night, this good Roman blade will do the business." Shouts followed this speech, and all ultimately dispersed.

The report of a collision between the people and military at Milan was confirmed. A sanguinary massacre had taken place, apparently sequestered by the superior authorities. The number of inhabitants killed and wounded by the military is variously stated at from ninety to one hundred and fifty. Among the killed is an aged counsellor, named Magenta, nearly seventy, and universally respected. He was murdered within peacefully reposing in his own house. The remote rose out of the rough usage given to the military.

Correspondence of the Bee.

WASHINGTON, February 8, 1848.

Mr. Downs made his *debut* in the Senate yesterday, with very indifferent success, either as an orator or a statesman. There is no legislative body in which a public man finds his level so soon, and so certainly, as the Senate of the United States, and there is no ordeal more trying. If he is distinguished in any one eminent quality of mind, it is acknowledged and appreciated, without any manner of reference to political partialities. Mr. Downs failed to make any impression—empty galleries and a thin Senate were the witnesses of his misfortune. He advocated the whole policy of the Administration, not stopping at the entire subjugation of Mexico; and delivered a diatribe against Mr. Gallatin, without having the fear of Mr. Jefferson before his eyes, and against foreigners generally, for attempting to interfere in our public concerns, during the existence of war. I hope Mr. Gallatin will not suffer any injurious effects from this denunciation—had he been aware of the danger of incurring the wrath of the fresh-fledged Senator from Louisiana, surely he would have suppressed his pamphlet on the war. But, in all seriousness, has Mr. Gallatin changed character since he was the confidential friend and counsellor, and Cabinet Minister, of those "*Democratic*" Presidents, upon whose authority the Locofocos of the present day profess to base their Jacobin doctrines? Has he sacrificed that patriotism and public spirit which the nation, without a dissenting voice, has always conceded to him? What object could Mr. Gallatin, now on the verge of the grave, have, but the honor and the prosperity of his adopted country in disseminating opinions matured in the seclusion of private life and without one partisan feeling or motive of personal ambition to bias his reflections! It was an unworthy assault on the part of Mr. Downs, and one which acquired for him neither honor nor reputation.

The fling at our adopted citizens, for whom the Locofocos profess such extraordinary affection, on election day, was characteristic. They are the chosen friends of the Country and the Constitution, when their votes are wanted to carry a "Democratic" Administration into power—its enemies, when they venture to oppose its progress or policy. These things are worthy of remembrance.

The important cause in which Mr. Clay is engaged before the Supreme Court, will be heard some day during the ensuing week, the bar having courteously given way, for the argument of the distinguished Counsel. A large assemblage collected yesterday morning in the Court room, upon a floating rumor that he was to speak.

In addition to the denials of the President, Secretary Marcy, and the official paper, that any treaty or project of a treaty had been received from Mr. Trist, the Secretary of State has positively pledged himself to the effect to his confidential friends. Still, there is a decided conviction that an informal communication has been made, setting forth the conditions upon which Mexico, would agree to a negotiation. This is the belief of Mr. Calhoun, and of others, who occupy similar relations to the Administration. *Secretiveness* is the predominating trait of the President, and he has succeeded in impressing it upon his Cabinet. I make this charge, that he or they have falsified in their reiterated statements concerning the intelligence of peace, which has been so freely circulated and credited here; but these official contradictions do not seem to have impaired the confidence of many, whose positions afford them great facilities of information. It may be set down as a fixed fact, however, that Mr. Polk has determined, neither to recognize, nor to acquiesce in any negotiation or arrangement with Mr. Trist may undertake, now, that he is acting without authority, and upon his own volition.

The reports which have been sent abroad from this point, some of which I have noticed in one of the New Orleans journals, in reference to Mr. Clay's position, are utterly false, and have been manufactured to make up "Washington letters." I speak from the best authority, and cannot be possibly mistaken. Mr. Clay came here, resolved to take some course, by which he would be relieved from all embarrassment touching the Presidential question. This purpose, he indicated to his nearest friends, before leaving Kentucky. He has been prevented from making a public declaration on this subject, solely with the view of perfecting the organization of the party, and of securing to the nominee of the Convention the full and cordial support of his friends. He has given no encouragement to their friends in Congress and from a distance, who have solicited the use of his name for the next canvass.

It is within my personal knowledge, that the individual who circulated this statement in his correspondence with the New Orleans paper, has no intercourse with Mr. Clay, or with those who are intimate with his views. He has done the same thing in the *Philadelphia Ledger* and *Baltimore Sun*, with which he also correspondes, two of the purest Locofoco sheets in the Union, under the garb of neutrality.

At a proper time, when it will be most advantageous to the Whig cause and to his own dignity, Mr. Clay will, in some public manner, signify his determination of retiring to private station. It is any thing else but reputable in those persons which have permitted such calumnies to find circulation in their columns, to thus assail the motives of one, whose life and services have been given to his country. Coming to the Capital with no other object than professional pursuits, he has been accused of participating in every form of intrigue, to promote his personal and political ends, without one shadow of truth, for such a foundation.

We hadn't long, but not a learned effort from Mr. Douglass, of Illinois, in the Senate, on the Mexican war. His principal position was, that Gen. Taylor advised the march from Corpus Christi, and he (Mr. Douglass) to the amount of his confidential friends. Still, there is a decided conviction that an informal communication has been made, setting forth the conditions upon which Mexico, would agree to a negotiation. This is the belief of Mr. Calhoun, and of others, who occupy similar relations to the Administration. *Secretiveness* is the predominating trait of the President, and he has succeeded in impressing it upon his Cabinet. I make this charge, that he or they have falsified in their reiterated statements concerning the intelligence of peace, which has been so freely circulated and credited here; but these official contradictions do not seem to have impaired the confidence of many, whose positions afford them great facilities of information. It may be set down as a fixed fact, however, that Mr. Polk has determined, neither to recognize, nor to acquiesce in any negotiation or arrangement Mr. Trist may undertake, now, that he is acting without authority, and upon his own volition.

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